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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Assistant Director, OO
Through: Assistant Director, ORE (*cy in ORE*)
FROM : Assistant Director, OCD
SUBJECT: Release of Japanese Documents to Library of Congress

DATE: 7 March 1947

59-416

1. It is understood that all original foreign language documents at the Documents Branch, OO bear a Restricted classification and that translations and other intelligence products normally bear a higher classification, depending on the nature of the product.

2. From a review of the contents of the Documents Branch's accession lists issued to date, it is the opinion of this office that many of the documents listed therein do not deserve a security classification and do not have substantial intelligence interest. However, because of the variety of subject matters included and the diversity of interests represented by the numerous recipients of the accession lists, it is not believed that final judgment should be exercised by CIG regarding the intelligence interest or security status of this material except after offering the agencies which receive the accession lists an opportunity to express their views.

3. The Acting Chief of the Documents Branch has stated to a representative of this office that a higher degree of efficiency would be attained by the Branch if a procedure were established to remove such documents as may properly be declassified and determined to be of no intelligence interest.

4. It is understood that officials of the Library of Congress desire to obtain for the Library all documents which can be released to it for public use. Further, the President, by Executive Orders No. 9568 and 9604, has directed that "subject to the requirements of National Military Security, there shall be prompt, public, free, and general dissemination of enemy scientific and industrial information".

5. For the reasons stated in paragraphs 3 and 4 hereof, it is recommended that the procedure described hereafter be followed:

(a) Publish on the inner side of the front cover of each Documents Branch accession list hereafter published (except "Special" lists) a notice worded substantially as follows:

It is the desire of the Central Intelligence Group that any documents listed herein which are determined not to deserve a security classification and which do not have a substantial intelligence interest to any of the recipients

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of this accession list, be released to the Library of Congress for public use. Accordingly, it is requested that recipients of this list review the items as described herein and report to the Central Intelligence Group any documents which they consider should not be released to the Library of Congress. Three months from this date all documents on this list, except those in which recipients of the list shall have indicated an immediate or possible future intelligence interest, will be transmitted to the Library of Congress without classification. The form on the opposite page may be used to notify the Central Intelligence Group regarding those documents which it is considered should not be released to the Library of Congress.

(b) Include in each accession list, opposite the inner side of the front cover, a mimeographed page containing a form letter (sample enclosed herewith) which may be used by recipients of the accession list to report to CIG documents which they judge have a substantial present or prospective intelligence interest and therefore should not be released to the Library of Congress as unclassified documents.

6. One of the approved functions of the Office of Collection and Dissemination is to review items of CIG intelligence and downgrade or declassify them as conditions permit, exercising this function in close coordination with the Office of Reports and Estimates. In view of this assigned function, it is considered that if the proposals made in this memorandum are adopted, it will be the responsibility of the Office of Collection and Dissemination (Control Division, Requirements Branch) to review recommendations received from recipients of the accession lists regarding the release of Japanese documents and make final determination as to which documents the Documents Branch shall be authorized to declassify and release to the Library of Congress.

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C. F. OLSEN
Captain, U. S. N.
Assistant Director for
Collection and Dissemination

Encl.

Sample form letter

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RESTRICTED

From:

To: Assistant Director, Office of Collection and Dissemination
Central Intelligence Group
2430 E Street, N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

Subject: Japanese Documents

1. (Political) accession list No. (28) dated (17 February 1947)
has been examined and no objection is interposed to releasing in an
unclassified status to the Library of Congress the documents listed
therein with the exception of the items checked below:

<u>WDC Doc. Nos.</u>	<u>Continuation of WDC Nos.</u>	<u>Continuation of WDC Nos.</u>	<u>Continuation of WDC Nos.</u>
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Name:

Title: